

ABSTRACT

The present invention aims to provide an electronic document viewing system meeting the convenience of users, while ensuring the security of electronic documents. A viewing apparatus has an acquiring unit for receiving a first layer and a second layer from a creating apparatus. The first layer contains a document laid out therein, and the second layer is defined to cover at least part of the first layer. The viewing apparatus also has a control unit for setting a display mode of the second layer, and a display unit for displaying the electronic document file in accordance with the display mode set by the control unit.